Amal Alhamal

Academic Writing & Grammar

Leah Keys Stahl

Multi genre (personal essay peer review)

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Peer Review

1. What kind of has you partner written- informative, expository, or argumentative? Has she/he chosen the best approach or would another approach been better? Why or why not?

My partner used expository to explain her personal view. Yes I think it is the best approach for this essay because it is personal essay.

1. Does the writer avoid the standard (and boring) 5 paragraph essay structure? Or does the essay resemble the 5- paragraph format too closely? In other words, has the writer attempted to write the essay in more original, creative and/or noun- standard way? If not, suggest how the writer could approach the essay differently by changing its structure, presentation of thesis, level of creativity or originality, etc and explain why its present approach does not work well.

No, I think the writer used the 5 paragraph structure.

1. Does the introduction grab you attention and interest? Does it effectively focus the reader's attention on the topic (purpose/ thesis) of the essay? In other words, the logically introduce the topic and the purpose of the essay and inspire some curiosity or interest in readers? Why or why not?

Yes, it does because it is a story about what she faced of difficulties when she came to America even small things like ordering food was difficult to do.

1. What is the thesis? Is the thesis arguable? In other words, could you disagree with it, argue against it? Could the writer improve her/his thesis to make it more arguable? How? Evaluate the thesis and comment on why it does or does not work

The thesis statement is “this was just one example of many frustrations that I had when I arrive in a country with different language and culture. I do not think so, because this is her personal life. In my opinion this thesis is just right for this essay and I do not think it need any improvement.

1. Does it feel that the writer purpose (thesis) is either too broad or too narrow? Would the essay be better if the writer explained her/his idea a bit more or narrowed it down to something a bit more specific? Does it try to cover too much or too little? Why or why not?

No, it is too broad or too narrow. The introduction before the thesis explains the thesis very well.

1. Does the thesis clearly answer the question "so what" and "who cares"? For the readers? In other word does the writer given the readers something new, interesting, unique, original and/ or surprising to consider? Does the thesis do more than present observation or facts? Does it instead point out something others wouldn’t normally notice or think about? Does it offer reader a new perspective of some kind? In other words, does the writer say something meaningful about the topic that demonstrate critical thinking \_ something that the readers likely have not considered or thought about?

No, the thesis itself does not have any thing unique, but the examples that she gave to support her thesis are good and some of them were interesting for me especially what she mentioned about having a servant in her home country.

1. What kind of thesis does the writer use \_ implicit or explicit? What kind of reasoning he/she use inductive or deductive? Where is the thesis placed in the essay- beginning, middle, end? Evaluate each of these features of the thesis (purpose) and explain whether you think that the writer has made good, effective choice about communicating his/her thesis?

I think the writer used implicit thesis and inductive reasoning. The thesis is in the end of the first paragraph.

1. Does each body paragraph develop the thesis a little bit more? Does each paragraph add meaning to the thesis? In other words, are all body paragraphs logically connected to and clearly related to the thesis? Do any of them go off the topic or include irrelevant, unnecessary information? Which ones? Why do you think so?
2. Does each body paragraph have a clear topic sentence or main idea? In other words, does each paragraph focus on a single point that supports/helps explain the thesis? Or are there paragraphs multiple or disconnected ideas? Which ones?

Yes, each paragraph has a topic sentence.

1. Has the writer balanced generalization and specific detail well? Are there too many general ideas that you, the reader, think "what does he/she means"? Are there any places that you think there is way too much details, which make you, the reader, lose focus and wonder why the writer has included this information? Basically, do all the details clearly related to the topic or the thesis or is there anything that just does not fit or make sense (is irrelevant or unnecessary) that the writer could delete?

Yes, the paragraphs are balanced and all the details are related to the topic sentence.

1. Has the writer explained all of his/her ideas thoroughly and completely? Is all the contact clear and convincing? Or are you, as a reader left with unanswered questions? Does anything need explained more or explained better what? Why?

The writer did a great job in the explanation and she does not have to explain more than she did.

1. Which rhetorical strategies has the writer used most? Are those rhetorical strategies the most appropriate ones for topic and the thesis? (Remember there are: illustration, narration, descriptive, classification, compare/ contrast, definition, process, cause/effect, and refutation) is there anywhere where a different strategy would improve the paper? Where? Why?

The writer used I writer used two ways narration and compare/contrast. I think these strategies are the best for this kind of essay.

1. Is the essay well organized? And the bodies paragraphs arrange in an order that make sense\_ does each point follow the previous one in a logical way? Why or why not? How the writer could arrange sentences and paragraphs better?

Yes, it is, but I think the writer should put the second point in the last because it is less important than the third one.

1. How would you describe the writer's tone? Is it serious, playful, concerned, etc? Is it too formal or informal? Is the writer's tone appropriate for the subject (topic), thesis (purpose), and audience (readers)? Consider things like whether the writer has balanced his/her use of diction appropriately (general vs. specific, concrete vs. abstract, mono vs. multi syllable words, figurative language) and if he/she tried to use vivid, interesting, specific nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs. Explain your evaluation.

The writer used informal way because the she was taking about her personal life and I think she conceded the audience too.

1. Does the writer consider his/her readers thoughtfully, being careful not to say anything unnecessary offend anger, or show disrespect to the readers? Explain your answer

What the entire writer mentioned was important to say and she gave the readers information about her country and how it different from American.

1. Does the conclusion effectively bring the paper to a close, making it feel "finished"? is it logical and make sense? Does it avoid introducing new ideas (it should avoid this)? Does it restate the thesis clearly in words that are different from the thesis?

Yes, it is. But, I am not sure about the last sentence in the conclusion paragraph” Hence, frustrations bring bad feelings in the moment but prevent that the bad feelings to repeat in the same situation”

1. Does it offer a closing thought, giving reader something to keep think about? (for example, a warning, prediction for the future, suggestion, instruction, question to think about, call the reader to action, etc)?

Yes, it does “However, although it was a difficult time to pass through during my first year, the frustration played an important role in the learning process”

1. Do you feel like you have learned something by reading this essay? Has the writer worked hard to offer his/her readers something interesting and meaningful to think about? Why or why not?

Yes, especially in conclusion paragraph the writer forced me to rethink about how all problems part of our learning process.

1. Overall, when you finished reading the essay, are you convinced? In other words, is the essay, are you convinced? In other words, is the essay persuasive? Why or why not?

Yes, it convinced me especially the conclusion.

1. How does the essay "flow"? Are there too many short sentences or too many long sentence. Does the writer use transition words (however, therefore, in addition, etc)? Are there any major errors that disrupt reading? Be specific in your answer by explaining what the effect of sentences, transitions ( or lack thereof), and/or errors have on the reader.

No, I think this essay has a good balance and the writer used transition works such as (however, hence, first…) and the essay does not have any major errors.